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## **SENATOR CARDIN NOMINATES WICOMICO COUNTY COUPLE FOR CONGRESSIONAL ANGELS IN ADOPTION AWARD**

WASHINGTON -- **U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin** (D-MD) has nominated Scott and Amy Ness of Hebron, MD as one of this year's Congressional *Angels in Adoption* for adopting 10 children over a four-year period, many whom had serious health and other issues.

"The Nesses saw a need and selflessly reached out to provide a home to children who were not easy to place," said **Senator Cardin**. "They have opened up their home and their hearts to provide 10 adopted children with a stable home and loving parents. They are an inspiration to all of us who want to make a difference."

Their story began when they became foster parents after having three children of their own. The Nesses were approached by a single mother who wanted them to adopt her biracial baby. Without hesitation they welcomed the baby girl into their family. They later adopted eight siblings, some of whom had serious addiction and health issues. The Nesses also adopted the biracial sibling of their first adopted child after the mother asked them to take her second child. In all, Amy and Scott Ness have adopted 10 children, eight of whom are biological siblings from one family and two of whom are biological siblings from another family.

The Congressional *Angels in Adoption* program is sponsored by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI), which is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to raising congressional and public awareness about the tens of thousands of foster children in this country and the millions of orphans around the world in need of permanent, safe, and loving homes. Senator Cardin is a member of the CCAI's Advisory Board. The *Angels in Adoption* program was created in 1999 to raise public awareness of the many different ways that committed individuals can help children and families through adoption.

This year's nominees will be honored at a national ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 6 sponsored by CCAI.

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